

**REMARKS**

In response to the Office Action dated November 28, 2006, Applicants submit the following remarks. The deadline for filing a response is December 28, 2006. Therefore, Applicants believe that this response is being timely filed. However, in the event that Applicants are incorrect in their assumption, please charge any necessary fee to Deposit Account No. 23-2415. In view of the remarks and amendments submitted herein, Applicants believe that the Application is in condition for examination on the merits and such action is earnestly solicited.

Applicants hereby elect Group II, claims 2-12 (as presently amended). This election is with traverse, however, because both criteria for a proper requirement have not been met insofar as the consideration of Groups I-XII together would not impose an undue burden on the Examiner. Applicants respectfully note that for a restriction requirement to be proper, (i) the invention defined by the claim groups must be independent (M.P.E.P. §806.04) and distinct (M.P.E.P. §806.05); and (ii) the consideration of the groups of invention in the same application must impose a serious burden on the Examiner. *See* 35 U.S.C. §121 and M.P.E.P. §803. Applicants respectfully submit that there would be no serious burden if restriction among these groups were not required. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the restriction requirement among Groups I-XII is improper and should be withdrawn. Also, Applicants elect SEQ ID No. 1 for prosecution on the merits.

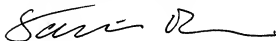
**CONCLUSION**

In view of the remarks and amendments submitted herein, Applicants believe that the Application is in condition for examination on the merits and such action is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (858) 350-2337.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: December 28, 2006

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